

California Blue Ribbon Task Force

Dear Task Force,

As a strong proponent of preserving and improving the health of California's coastal ecosystems, I am writing to urge you to support Proposal 4. This proposal promises the best future for the North Central Coast by identifying key areas for protection that will help repair vital ocean habitats, recover declining wildlife populations and restore California's coastal waters. Thank you for considering my views on this important subject. I look forward to your reply.

Sincerely,

Kelly, John
Wade, Cindy
Schmookler, Edward
Daddy, Big
Greenan, Rachel
Heslip, Nicole
Huey, Miranda
Knight, Franklin
Lareau, Audrey

Rodriguez, Carmen
Wilde, Jennifer
Ball, Barbara
Bornheimer, Thomas
Bray, Richard
Carbajal, Junette
Cohen, Howard
Fortino, Teresa
Gong, Sherry

McClure, Dinene
Metro, Michelle
Mont-Eton, Elaine
Rahm, Yoshaany
Reidenbach, Gregory
Shelton, Theresa
Stallman, Sacha
Strader, Britt
Vanburen, Amy

From: Lee Rudin [mailto:leewaysf@pacbell.net]
Sent: Monday, May 05, 2008 9:25 AM
To: MLPAComments
Subject: recommending Package 4 as your preferred alternative

Dear MLPA Blue Ribbon Task Force,

I am a Golden Gate Audubon member and concerned about protecting our marine and coastal areas, especially those areas used by birds for nesting, foraging, and resting. Bird watching is part of an \$85 billion industry in the US and contributes substantially to the economy of California. Please ensure that important bird areas along our coast and in our state waters are protected by creating marine protected areas that are science-based and that incorporate ecosystem management principles. The needs of a broad range of stakeholders can be best met when the most significant natural resources are protected.

I support the network of marine protected areas in Package 4 for the North Central Coast Region of the Marine Life Protection Act. I ask the Blue Ribbon Task Force to select Package 4 as your preferred alternative. Any final package selected as the preferred alternative should include marine protected areas that incorporate areas important to birds, especially declining, threatened, or endangered species. Likewise, I support environmentally-sensitive wildlife watching in marine protected areas so that the public can continue to understand and enjoy the resources we all hope to protect.

Marine protected areas, especially fully protected marine reserves, are needed to protect healthy coastal waters, which support coastal communities and our state economy. Scientific studies confirm that marine reserves protect marine biodiversity. Marine reserves will benefit species like birds that depend on forage fish species that are protected in marine reserves and that use also marine protected areas as sanctuaries for breeding and resting. Not only will our underwater resources benefit, but so will the complete ecosystem, if fully protected marine reserves are implemented.

Please ensure the future of California's ocean and coasts by recommending Package 4 as your preferred alternative.

Thank you,

Lee Rudin

Golden Gate Audubon Member

*Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot,
Nothing is going to get better. It's not. Dr. Seuss*